WASHINGTON – Following this morning's presidential veto of the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), Congressman Kirk issued the following statement:

"Last week, I joined with 264 House members and 67 Senators to support the state children's health program. Our legislation is a modest extension of the program that will cover 3.4 million additional kids, funded by an increase in tobacco fees. In sum, the bill is a good one – more health insurance for kids and less smoking.

"Congress should end this partisan fight and override the veto."